Vol 20 #8 11/97
GV691.T45S56

Vol. 20, No. 8/November 11, 1997

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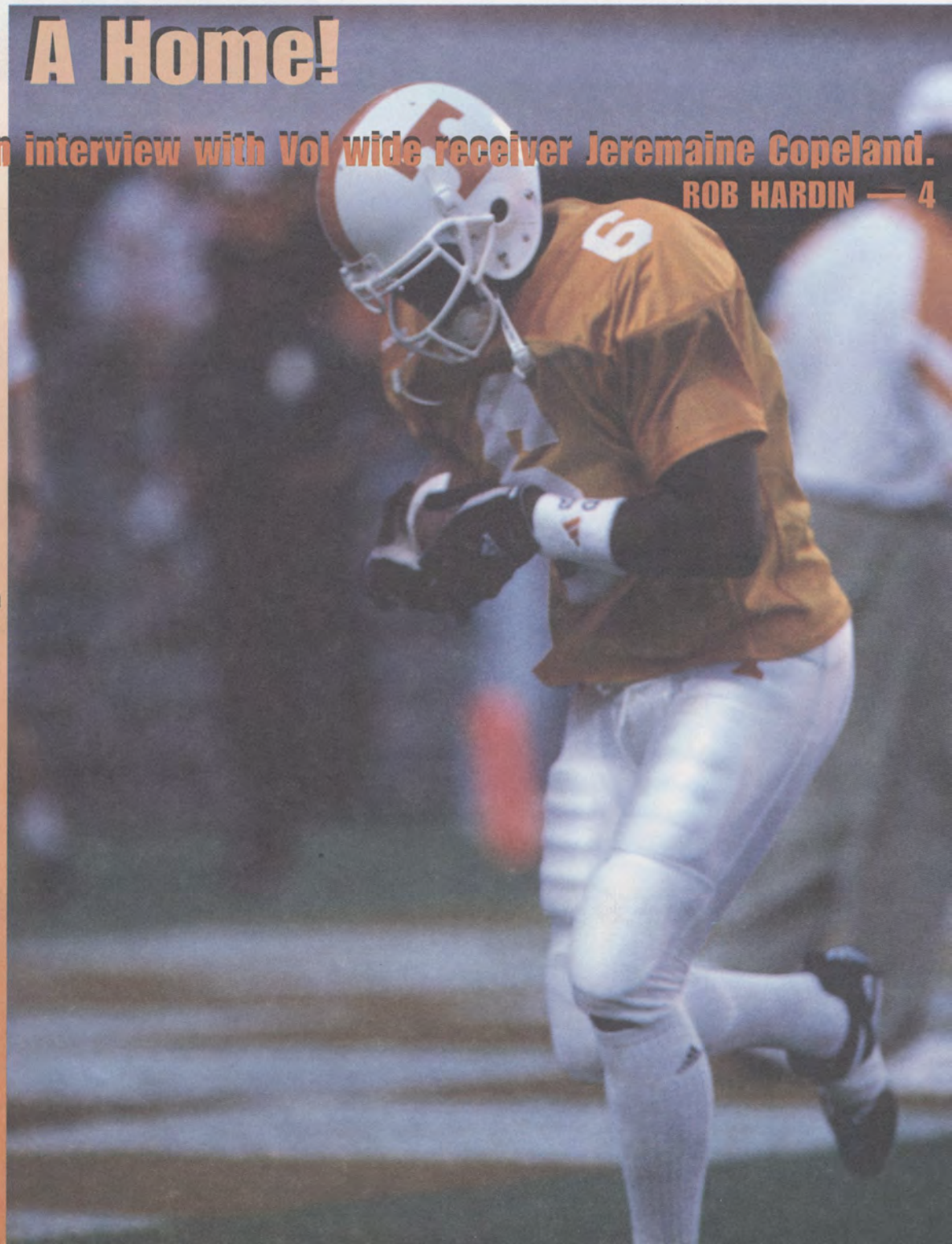
Smokey Volunteers Magazine

NEWS FROM THE TENNESSEE VOLUNTEERS

Finding A Home!

An interview with Vol wide receiver Jeremaine Copeland.
ROB HARDIN — 4



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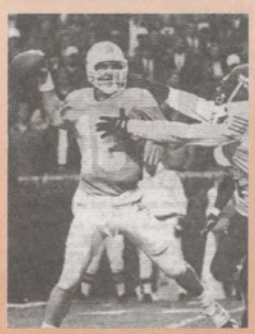

6 MANNING'S 399 YARDS AND FOUR TDs LEAD VOLS OVER USM, 44-20
VOLUNTEERS MAGAZINE STAFF

3 A LOOK AT THE FEASIBILITY OF POTENTIAL RULES CHANGES WITH AD DOUG DICKEY
HAYWOOD HARRIS

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Smokey's Tale
Volunteers
Magazine

Official Publication of the
University of Tennessee
Athletic Department

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Mailing Address
Volunteers Magazine
Post Office Box 15016,
Knoxville, TN 37901-5016

UT Printing Authorization
E01-8601-10-001-98

Member of Collegiate Sports Publishers Association.

Volunteers Magazine (ISSN 10867775, USPS 013815) is published once in August, weekly September through November, once in December, twice monthly January through June and once in August. Subscription cost is $29.97 yearly. The known office of publication is 267 Stokely Athletic Center, 1720 Volunteer Boulevard, Knoxville, TN 37996. Periodical postage paid at Nashville, Tenn. POSTMASTER: Send changes of address to Volunteers Magazine, P.O. Box 15016, Knoxville, TN 37901-5016

From the Editor

LIVING IN A FANTASY WORLD

If you haven't checked your surroundings lately, you might not be aware that we are living in a fantasy world. Nothing's for real any more. And nowhere is that more true than in sports where things have always been sort of make-believe anyway.

Think about it. It's fantasy this and fantasy that. We have fantasy leagues, fantasy teams, fantasy players. Even fantasy baseball camps, where for a couple of thousand bucks you can wear a Cincinnati Reds uniform and pretend you're Pete Rose or Ed Bailey.

So how about some fantasy football rules? It's not easy to find anything about football you and I don't like. It's as close to perfection as anything we can think of. Otherwise, we wouldn't be spending our time at the games. But nothing's flawless, not even college football on a gorgeous afternoon in early November.

A little tampering with the rules by us devoted fans wouldn't hurt a thing. Might even help. "A little thisa and a little thata," as the song reminds us, might make the great old autumn pastime even better. After all, writing football rules is like running a motel or coaching. Everybody thinks he can do it better than the guy who has the responsibility.

With that in mind, I asked a few fans to come up with rules they would like to see adopted. Then, to get an idea what official reaction might be, I submitted them to Vol athletic director Doug Dickey.

He's in good position to comment on the suggestions Dickey recently completed a term as chairman of the rules committee. He speaks with an establishment voice, which means he tends to look at things through the eyes of coaches, officials and players.

So here goes our exercise in fantasy.

Fantasy Proposal 1: Stop the silly business of a deferral option when a team wins the pregame toss. The sole purpose of the coin toss is to get the game started, not to give either team a strategic advantage based on which side comes up heads.

Dickey's response: *"In the true sense, it's not really a deferral as much as it's one more option for the captains to consider. The winner may kick, receive, defend a goal or wait until the next half."*

Fantasy Proposal 2: Base the penalty for excessive celebration on the degree of the infraction: five yards for spontaneous celebration, 15 yards for flagrant.

Dickey's response: *"This is something that is continually undergoing review. It's when players come off the bench or call attention to themselves as individuals that we have a problem. The trouble with having degrees of punishment is that coaches wouldn't tolerate a 15-yard penalty, but might think that five yards is okay. In that case, there obviously wouldn't be sufficient deterrent."*

Fantasy Proposal 3: To provide more eye appeal and allow fans to identify better with their teams, eliminate the rule that requires visiting teams to wear white jerseys. An exception would be when there is an obvious conflict such as Alabama's crimson and Georgia's red, or Tennessee's and Texas' shades of orange. The rule bringing in white jerseys was in response to problems related to black and white television. Now that color TV is prevalent even in Outer Mongolia, why not allow Tennessee fans to see their school colors in Birmingham and Gainesville?

Dickey's response: *"Dark and light based on home or road makes it easy to determine who wears what jersey. Keep in mind that the rule applies to all divisions of college football. In bad weather, quarterbacks might have trouble distinguishing colors if the rule were to be changed. Still, this is something that could be looked at as a possibility."*

Fantasy Proposal 4: Allow a fumble recovery on a muffed punt to be returned. And why not? The receiving team let the ball slip away. A fumble is a fumble.

Dickey's response: *"I don't like cheap touchdowns. In this case the receiving team did not actually have possession."*

Fantasy Proposal 5: Identify on the public address the guilty party when a penalty is assessed.

Dickey's response: *"That's one rules change I support. In basketball the fans know who is guilty of a rules violation. Why shouldn't it be that way in football?"*

Dickey said the rules committee is continuously evaluating where the game structure is by polling coaches, officials, players and fans. "Every one of these suggestions has been discussed at one time or another. Making the rules is an evolving process."

—Haywood Harris

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A Look At The Vols...

FINDING A HOME!

On March 5th, Peyton Manning announced his decision to remain at Tennessee and complete his collegiate eligibility.

This meant that No. 16 would once again be calling the signals for the Vols and leading a high-powered that currently leads the SEC with 483 yards per outing.The Vol faithful were pleased to hear the news. His announcement was the lead story in the Knoxville News-Sentinel. ESPN2 aired the announcement live and hundreds media personnel were on hand to document the event.

All was well in Big Orange Country and everyone was relieved to have Manning back for one more season, except one person.

That person was the one who would have stepped into Manning's role of the No. 1 quarterback. That person was junior Jeremaine Copeland.

"It upset me," he said "I was the back-up quarterback and was hoping to start. It disappointed me a little bit, but I have grown to love my position."

Well, everyone has grown to love Copeland in his new position. Copeland has become a wide receiver for the Vols, and even Manning is happy to see him lined up on the outside instead of behind center.

"He's is not the fastest guy in the world, but he can make every kind of catch in the world," Manning said. "He has done a great job of getting open and making good catches for us. He has got big strong hands. He makes every catch possible including going over the middle with now fear. He always seems to know what I am thinking. "

Receivers coach Pat Washington is also impressed with Copeland's ability to get open and catch the ball.

"He does not possess the speed or the quickness of some of the other guys, but he definitely has great concentration," Washington said. "He wants the ball in his hands, and when the ball is in the air, he is going to try to catch it. He has the hands to do it. He is a former quarterback and is used to dealing with the football. He played that position extremely well and has great hand-eye coordination. If he has a chance to catch it, he will catch it."

After the win over South Carolina, Copeland had 32 catches with six of those going for touchdowns. The decision to move Copeland to wide receiver was a difficult one for the Vol coaches, but the decision has reaped dividends.

"We kind of bit the bullet back in two-a-days, having Peyton run both the first and second teams," Tennessee coach Philip Fulmer said. "We did that so that Jeremaine could get all the work he needed at receiver and not have to go back to quarterback. I still think it is paying dividends for us.

"I continue to be impressed with Jeremaine. He comes to the practice field every day to work hard and get better."

Washington believes Copeland's good practice habits have directly influenced his performance on the field.

"He has a great desire to play the game," Washington said. "Guys

Jeremaine Copeland makes a move in the secondary.

like that perform on Saturday. They practice like the play, and play like they practice. He tries to make the same catches in practice that he does in a game. You feel like if he can make those plays in practice, he can do it in the game."

Copeland has made the plays in the game, including two nifty one-handed grabs. His first came in the season opening win over Texas Tech and the second went for a touchdown against Florida. He has had at least five receptions in every game but one, and he had arguably his best game of the season against Alabama. In the 38-21 win over the Crimson Tide, the Harriman native had six catches for 70 yards and two touchdowns. It was also the third straight win for the Vols over Alabama, a fact that Copeland is glad to say.

"It feels great to get three in row over Alabama," he said. "I want to go out 4-0 against them, so we are hoping everything goes the way it has been going against them. Being from Harriman makes it more special. I saw Tennessee struggle against them while growing up, and to come up here and be 3-0 against them, makes it a little more special."

One thing Copeland did show in the win over Alabama was he could get open. While being doubled-covered, Copeland was able to run a corner route and get open. A perfect pass from Manning found his hands and then he turned and dove for the end zone to complete the 30-yard scoring play. Improving his route running was something Copeland wanted to do.

"Running routes was a problem, when I first moved to receiver," Copeland said. "Just because you are a quarterback and you know all the routes a receiver runs, that doesn't mean you can actually run them. So that is something I have worked to improve."

Copeland did see the Vols playing football while growing up just down Interstate 40. But early in his athletic career, he did not envision himself playing at Neyland Stadium, but instead playing in Thompson-Boling Arena.

While at Harriman High School, Copeland led his team to the Class AA state basketball championship and was touted as Division I prospect.

"I did not think about playing college football while in high school, but playing college basketball," he said. "My sophomore year I started watching Tennessee play football and I grew to love it. Now I am right in the middle of it."

Copeland also met with success on the football field, as he guided his team to the state championship game his senior year. During that season, he rushed for 1503 yards and 22 touchdowns and completed 51of 115 passes for 921 yards and nine touchdowns.

So his first two years at UT, Copeland was playing the back-up role to Manning. But during his sophomore year, Copeland saw time at the receiver position as he caught 16 passes for 191 yards. Then the decision was made to move him to receiver permanently during spring practice this year, and he has not been disappointed.

"Going into the season, we knew Jeremaine had play-making ability," Washington said. "He had shown that throughout his high school career and since he has been here. If you give him the opportunity to shine, he will. So of course he has play-making ability, and I was excepting him to show that on the field this season."

Those two years at quarterback made the move a little easier, and increased his desire to play.

"Playing quarterback for two years made my move to receiver a little easier," he said. "I know what the timing is and where the ball is supposed to be thrown. Now I have to get there and let Peyton get it to me.

"I have got a whole lot of intensity and desire. I love to win and hate to lose, so I am going to give 100 percent on every play. Not playing a lot for two years I built some of that up, and now I am letting it out."

Now, Copeland has found his place with the Vols.

"I feel like I have found a home, and feel pretty good," he said. "It was just a matter of getting out there, having a chance to play, and show some ability."

—Rob Hardin

"He does not possess the speed or the quickness of some of the other guys, but he definitely has great concentration. He wants the ball in his hands, and when the ball is in the air, he is going to try to catch it. He has the hands to do it. He is a former quarterback and is used to dealing with the football. He played that position extremely well and has great hand-eye coordination. If he has a chance to catch it, he will catch it."

—Wide Receiver Coach Pat Washington

Vols Soar Past Golden Eagles!

Tennessee's Shawn Bryson had a 44-yard run in the Vols' 44-20 win over Southern Mississippi at Neyland Stadium on Saturday.

(See Fulmer File, p. 8)

Shields-Watkins Field, Knoxville, Tenn., Nov. 8, 1997 - When a 13-6 deficit becomes a 34-13 advantage, there has to be a number of reasons. There are turnovers, like the fumble forced by Jeff Coleman and recovered by Darwin Walker, that led to the drive that tied the game at 13-13. There's the "hidden yardage" in the kicking game, as per the 22-yard USM punt that put the Vols in business at the 35 going in and a late score that made the halftime margin 20-13. The Vols were able to run the two-minute offense effectively. There's a 34-yard punt return by Terry Fair that set up the Vol offense at the USM 28 and led to the score being 27-13. Finally, there was an 80-yard drive mixing the run and the pass that made the score 34-13.

Just like that, you have the story of the Vols' 44-20 win on Homecoming Day 1997 before 107,073 at a chilly Neyland Stadium in the gloaming of a November afternoon. The Vols, who were ranked seventh in the nation going in, looked to move up some after losses by three teams ahead of them in the polls.

The win marked the 50th win for head coach Phillip Fulmer, the second fastest rise to 50 triumphs in Vol history. Fulmer did it in 60 games. The redoubtable Bob Neyland won 50 of his first 55 games between the 1926 season opener and the 1931 Carson-Newman game, the seventh game of that campaign. Interestingly enough, Fulmer's 50th win at Tennessee came 60 years and a day after Neyland's.

Peyton Manning threw the ball to the tune of 35 of 53 for 399 yards and four scores. Marcus Nash, 10 catches for 110 yards, and Jeremaine Copeland, 11 catches for 137 yards, caught the ball and Vol defenders shut off every area of attack from the 11:39 mark of the second quarter on.

Al Wilson and Shawn Johnson led Vol defenders with seven and six tackles, respectively. Wilson (-2 yards) and Jonathan Brown (-11) had sacks and Leonard Little (-5) and Shaun Ellis (-5) had lost-yardage tackles.

> ***"I JUST STRIPPED IT. WE NEEDED TO MAKE A PLAY. WE WANTED TO CREATE MORE TURNOVERS. OVERALL, WE PLAYED SOLID DEFENSIVELY. IN THE SECOND HALF, WE JUST CAME OUT AND PLAYED HARDER."***
>
> ***— DEFENSIVE END JEFF COLEMAN***

Once the Vols got it going late in the second quarter, it was quite an offensive performance, with the good guys scoring on six of seven possessions at one point. The output was 38 points -- five touchdowns and a field goal, one of the three made on the day by the ever-dependable Jeff Hall.

Nash had two TD receptions, covering 8 and 28 yards, and Copeland added another on a five-yard pass from Manning. Peerless Price had a one-yard TD pass from Peyton. Manning had a one-yardsneak for another score.

Nash, Copeland and Price were the big stories of the day offensively, moving swiftly and surely through the USM secondary.

"I ran my routes like I am capable of doing and was able to get open," Nash said. "Peyton was real intense this week

in practice, and we believed we could have a good game.

"We are always good in the two-minute offense. Teams cannot focus on one thing and are not able to pick up our tendencies. I saw they were a little tired, and we just kept up the pressure."

For Copeland, the offensive outburst was a dream come true.

"It was a game I have dreamed of having," Copeland said. "I had fun playing, and Peyton got me the ball. I was just trying to catch the ball. I was just out to win the game.

"We were nervous. Then we got it in our mind we needed to step it up. We came out and showed what we could do."

The Vols moved to two first quarter field goals, sandwiched around a USM touchdown. Vol defenders stood tall as USM moved inexorably toward the goal, but came away with only 13 points when it looked like they could have had more.

The Vols tied the game when Coleman caused a fumble on a screen pass and Walker rumbled toward the north goal for 18 yards. The play got the crowd in the game and jump-started the Vol offense. Manning hit Copeland for 7, 11 and 7 and nearly scored on a quarterback draw that got the spheroid to the one. Manning wedged his way in and it was 13-13 with 2:10 left.

A short punt put the Vols in position at the 35 and Peyton took advantage of the favorable field position. Nash caught an 18-yarder on the left side. Jamal Lewis rumbled for 11 with a screen pass, and Price caught a one-yarder for a score in the northeast corner.

The Vols scored on their first drive of the third quarter as Fair brought a punt back 34, and the Vols were knocking on the south goal door. Manning hit Nash for 11, Price for 12, and found Jeremaine for 5 and the score from five yards out on a screen left on the next play.

"It was on my mind to build up my speed and hit the hole," Fair said of his run. "I was not worried about my shoulder and stopped dancing around after I caught the ball. I was trying to get back to my old form."

Manning led an 80-yard drive that began with a 13-yard toss to Nash, a 12-yard run by Lewis followed by a nine-yarder. The key play of the drive was a 26-yard toss to Copeland that moved the ball to the 10. Nash got the TD on a neatly-executed screen pass where the flow went left and Manning found Nash on the far right side for the score.

After USM returned the ensuing kickoff for a score, Manning led yet another TD drive after Dwayne Goodrich returned the kickoff to the UT 40. Manning hit Price for 13, Peerless for 19 more and found Nash in the left corner for the score. That made it 41-20 and Hall's 47-yard field goal established the final margin in the fourth quarter.

"We just ran our basic plays," Manning said. "They try to confuse you, so you need to execute your plays to be successful. We went to the two-minute drill and sped up the tempo. This made them line up quickly. We were fired up and responded to the challenge. We came out and beat a good team.

"Our receivers did a great job of getting open. Jeremaine caught 11, Marcus 10 and Peerless six, so who is the defense going to cover?"

GAME NOTES: Former UT Daily Beacon columnist Woody Paige was at the game, representing the Denver Post...Hall's 14 points gave him 239 for his career which is fifth all-time at Tennessee...Manning has 76 career touchdown passes, second all-time in the SEC... Manning is only the ninth player in NCAA history to throw for at least 75 touchdowns... Nash moved to No. 3 on the UT career receiving yards with 1979 for his career. He has 154 catches for his career, but still trails Joey Kent (183 from 1993-96)... Brown's sack put him at 20, tied for fifth all-time with Steve White (1992-95).

--Volunteers Magazine Staff

Linebacker Shawn Johnson (left) had six tackles while tight end Antron Peebles had two catches for 31 yards.

Tennessee Statistics vs. Southern Mississippi

Team Statistics	UT	USM
First Downs	3	16
Rushing	9	5
Passing	21	10
Penalty	0	1
Rushing Attempts	28	24
Yards Gained	139	92
Yards Lost	14	27
Net Yards Rushing	125	65
Net Yards Passing	417	254
Passes Attempted	54	35
Passes Completed	36	23
Had Intercepted	0	1
Total Offensive Plays	82	59
Total Net Yards	542	319
Average Gain	6.61	5.41
Fumbles-Lost	2-2	1-1
Penalties No-Yards	7-37	11-99
Punts-Average	2-46.0	6-42.0
Punt Returns-Yards	2-34	1-4
Kickoff Returns-Yards	4-98	7-207
Int. Returns-Yards	1-0	0-0
Fumble Returns-Yards	1-18	0-0
Time of Possession	32:34	27:26
Third Down Conversions	6-14	3-13
Fourth Down Conversions	1-1	1-1
Sacks By-Yards	2-13	1-11

SOUTHERN MISS	7	6	7	0	— 20
TENNESSEE	6	14	21	3	— 44

1-UT: Hall, FG 28.
Drive: 62 yards, 14 plays, 6:17 possession, 8:43 on clock.
1-SM: Shaw, run 11. Hardaway kick.
Drive: 65 yards, 8 plays, 3:14 possession, 5:29 on clock.
1-UT: Hall, FG 19.
Drive: 64 yards, 10 plays, 3:02 possession, 2:27 on clock.
2-SM: Hardaway, FG 29.
Drive: 58 yards, 9 plays, 3:23 on clock, 14:04 on clock.
2-SM: Hardaway, FG 30.
Drive: 19 yards, 6 plays, 2:10 possession, 11:35 on clock.
2-UT: Manning, run 1. Hall kick.
Drive: 41 yards, 6 plays, 2:07 possession, 2:10 on clock.
2-UT: Price, pass from Manning 1.Hall kick.
Drive: 35 yards, 6 plays, :35 possession, :18 on clock.
3-UT: Copeland, pass from Manning 5. Hall kick.
Drive: 28 yards, 4 plays, 1:02 possession, 12:46 on clock.
3-UT: Nash, pass from Manning 8. Hall kick.
Drive: 80 yards, 11 plays, 4:19 possession, 5:35 on clock.
3-SM: Booth, kickoff return 96. Hardaway kick.
Drive: 5:16 on clock.
3-UT: Nash, pass from Manning 28. Hall kick.
Drive: 60 yards, 5 plays, 1:06 possession, 4:10 on clock.
4-UT: Hall, FG 47.
Drive: 42 yards, 6 plays, 2:15 possession, 10:41 on clock.

Rushing	Att.	Gain	Lost	Net	TD	Long
Lewis	17	71	3	68	0	12
Bryson	3	47	0	47	0	44
Manning	2	10	0	10	1	9
Levine	2	8	0	8	0	7
Darden	2	3	0	3	0	2
Edmonds	1	0	0	0	0	0
T. Martin	1	0	11	-11	0	-11

Passing	Att.	Comp.	Int.	Yards	TD	Long
Manning	53	35	0	399	4	41
T. Martin	1	1	0	18	0	18

Receiving	No.	Yards	TD	Long
Copeland	11	137	1	26
Nash	10	110	2	28
Price	6	61	1	19
Bryson	3	14	0	6
McCullough	2	47	0	41
Peebles	2	31	0	18
Lewis	1	11	0	11
Levine	1	6	0	6

Punting	No.	Yards.	Avg.	Long
Hogue	2	92	46.0	52

Field Goals	Att.	Made	Long
Hall	4	3	47

All Returns	Punts No.	Yds.	LP	Kickoffs No.	Yds	LP	Int. No.	Yds.	LP
Fair	1	34	34				1	0	0
Goodrich				2	54	33			
Darden				2	44	23			
C. Wilson	1	0	0						

Fulmer File...

1997 Southern Miss Game

If Peyton Manning isn't the finest college player in the nation, I can't imagine who it would be. As if we needed any more proof, Peyton did everything we asked in our 44-20 victory Saturday over a Southern Mississippi team that showed it deserved its rank in the Top 25.

On an afternoon and night when our running game was none too productive, Peyton went to work in spectacular fashion. He had four touchdown passes, hit our receivers for 399 yards, and, for good measure, sneaked into the end zone for a fifth touchdown.

In the dressing room, Peyton even led the team in singing an extra verse of our traditional victory song. That young man is ready for our stretch drive, which I think pretty much typifies the attitude of our entire squad.

This Volunteer team, I believe, has the maturity and character to appreciate the opportunity that lies in front of us, starting this Saturday at Arkansas. But we need to keep improving in every way.

Homecoming weekends at UT are fun times for everyone, with all the exciting activities taking place on campus, including a football game as the main attraction.

Let me say from our standpoint that the game was fun, too, as the Vols came from behind before our second-largest crowd ever, 107,073, including many old grads who come back every year for this occasion. I am sure the alumni and fans were as happy as I was at the outcome. Any time a ranked team comes to town, you can bet it is going to be a tougher-than-usual encounter, like this one was.

Our week of practice leading to the Southern Mississippi game was very good, despite the fact we were not in the best shape physically. Jarvis Reado, Al Wilson and others were banged up from the South Carolina game. Then against the Golden Eagles, we had some more injuries, with Billy Ratliff and Raynoch Thompson both going to the sidelines early in the game. Depth really comes into play at a time like this.

Fortunately, as demonstrated in probably the key play of the game, it was two of our reliable reserves who turned the tide in our favor. With Southern Mississippi on top 13-6 and driving midway in the second period, Jeff Coleman knocked the ball loose from an Eagle back. Darwin Walker, another talented reserve, was there to scoop it up and run the ball back to a spot from where we were able to score the tying touchdown. Bang bang, just like that, we get another score and head for the dressing room with a 20-13 lead.

It was almost a miraculous turnaround and definitely was the impetus for us to go on to an impressive victory. To get the win in decisive fashion after a scary first half was exciting. We respected the Golden Eagles greatly, and the Southern Mississippi fans should proud of their football team.

Our heroes were too numerous to mention, but I want to pay special tribute to a couple of tremendous receivers, Jeremaine Copeland and Marcus Nash. Their catches - 11 for Jeremaine and 10 for Marcus - made life a lot less complicated for Peyton Manning.

I admit it made me feel good when the team presented me a game ball in recognition of my 50th victory as Vol head coach. But I also realize it was our players and staff who made it possible. I am grateful to all of them. It is a joy to be associated with such an outstanding group of dedicated men.

— Phillip Fulmer

"I admit it made me feel good when the team presented me a game ball in recognition of my 50th victory as Vol head coach. But I also realize it was our players and staff who made it possible. I am grateful to all of them. It is a joy to be associated with such an outstanding group of dedicated men."

— Phillip Fulmer

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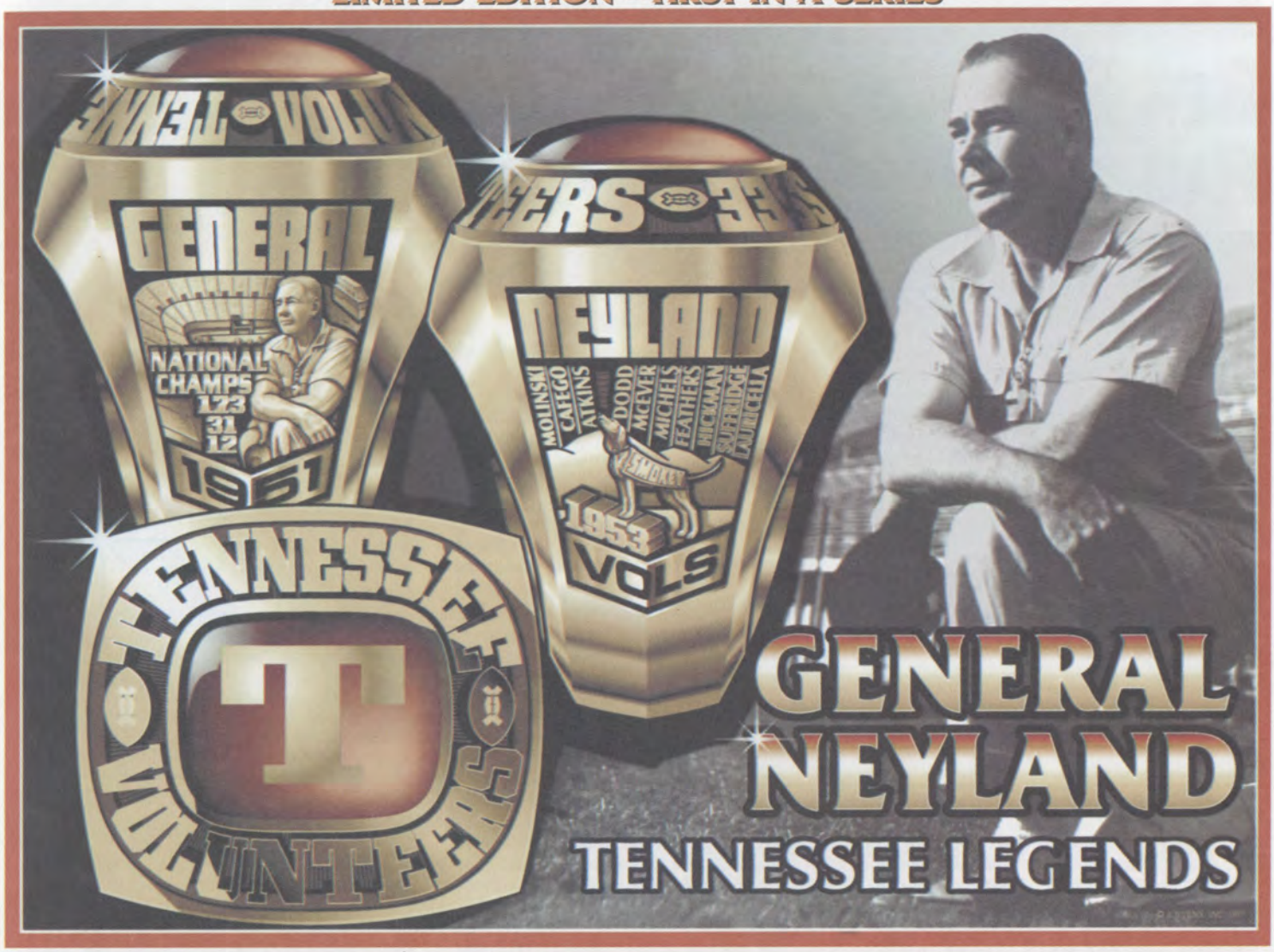

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Tennessee Tradition...

Ben Byrd on the Vols... Hall of Famer Bowden Wyatt

Picture this. On first down and 10 at the Alabama 15-yard line, Tennessee's Peyton Manning passes into the end zone but the ball falls to the ground incomplete. The referee picks up the football, trots out to the 20-yard line and points the other way. First down, Alabama.

Or this. A Vol running back is chased out of bounds. Instead of running the ball to the nearest hash mark, the ref spots it one yard from the sideline. The Tennessee center crouches over the ball, and all the other linemen line up inside of him, toward the center of the field.

It won't happen now, but it used to happen all of the time. In the game that I saw when I was a youngster, any pass falling incomplete in the endzone on any down was ruled a touchback, and the opposing team took over at its 20-yard line.

And there were no hash marks then. When the ball was carried out of bounds, it was spotted one yard inside the boundary.

Those are just two of the dozens of changes that have taken place in college football during the lifetime of many of the fans who still watch it today. In contrast to its fellow American sport, baseball, which has remained virtually the same for decades, football has been a constantly evolving game, forever in quest of a better way of doing things.

There are many other differences in the old game that I saw as a kid and the modern game. Perhaps the most fundamental of them all was the limited substitution rule that stayed in effect until after World War II. A player who was substituted for in one quarter could not return to the game until the next quarter.

What that came down to was two-way players who had to play both offense and defense. The separate offensive and defensive units and kicking teams that we see today did not exist then. And even if you prefer the modern game, this has to be said for the old game. Yesterday's player was a more complete player than his modern counterpart. He had to dp it all.

Obviously, specialist did not exist then. The guys who punted, kicked off and kicked extra points and field goals were full-time players.

Field goals were seldom seen in the old days, not only because of the lack of a specialist but because the goal posts were not as wide as they are now. And, of course, the absence of hash marks meant that you might be kicking from a very severe angle.

The ball itself was changed back in the early 1930s, and that brought about quite a shift in tactics. The old ball was bigger and fatter than the new streamlined version, and it was much harder to throw. The new ball helped loosen up the passing game, although the rules largely mitigated against it. In addition to the end zone touchback rule there was one that forced the passer to stay five yards behind the line of scrimmage.

All change is not necessarily progress. In the '30s and '40s plays were sent in from the sidelines or called down from the coaches in the press box. Only the quarterback could call the play, and there was a strictly enforced rule that forbade a player just entering the game from talking in the huddle. I would like to see that much of the old game restored.

The death of the bigger ball also brought about the extinction of one of the game's storied offensive weapons. The dropkick, made famous by the legendary Jim Thorpe, became a much more difficult skill with the advent of the trimmer ball and was eventually abandoned. If I am not mistaken, the last Tennessee player to dropkick an extra point was tailback Bob Snead, whose senior year was 1938.

Changes have not only substantive but cosmetic. The game has a different "look" now than it had way back when. The players' uniforms are vastly altered. When I first started watching the Vols play there were no numerals on the front of the jerseys. They didn't make their debut until 1936. They wore plain khaki pants, leather headgears (orange with white stripes) and no face masks. You could actually tell who a player was by looking at him.

There was no numbering system then, in regard to player positions. For example, All-American tailback George Cafego wore jersey number 72 and his backfield cohort, wingback Bob Foxx, wore 77. Those are tackle numbers today.

And the stadium at Shields-Watkins Field, which seated 30-odd thousand, was not awash in bright orange, as Neyland Stadium is today. Folks just wore plain old clothes back then.

Former Vol

Mike Jones (1967-69)

Nashvillian Mike Jones was a do-it-all type player for Doug Dickey in his three-year career at Tennessee. A multi-talented athlete in the Ron Widby mold, Jones played quarterback on the Vol freshman team in 1966 and played two years in the secondary and one year at tailback during his time on the Hill. He stepped in very nicely at safety in 1967 when starter Bill Young went down with an injury. (He also wore two different numbers during his time as a Vol, No. 11 and No. 40.)

He threw four TD passes as a Vol frosh in as many games and rushed for three more in an exceptional rookie season.

He scored the Vols' first TD on artificial turf in the 1968 Georgia game, but made his greatest mark in the secondary. He is No. 2 on the career pass interceptions list, grabbing 16 enemy aerials for 305 yards and one score.

He had a team-leading seven interceptions for 150 yards in the SEC championship season of 1967. His 71-yard interception return in the 1967 Kentucky game is the 12th longest return in Vol history and second longest non-scoring interception run.

Jones now lives in Hendersonville and is president of Electrical Sales Associates in Nashville.

Nashville's Mike Jones saw service at a number of positions during his time at Tennessee.

Tennessee Wins Dual Cross Country Meet

The Tennessee Volunteers cross country team defeated the East Tennessee State Buccaneers, 23-32, in its final tune up before the Southeastern Conference Championships held on Nov. 1 in Columbia, S.C.

Pacing the Vols was Bob Dickie, who won the four-mile race in 20:43.9. Dickie outdistanced ETSU's Derek Murphy, who finished second in 20:51.2.

The Vols placed three runners in the top five, and all five in the top nine. Doug Ellington and Mike Moran finished third (20:58.8) and fourth (21:03.8) respectively for Tennessee. Also running their best races of the season were Garrett Lewis and Chris Hendrix-Buxton, who finished sixth and ninth respectively.

Vols Place 11th at the Louisiana Intercollegiate

The University of Tennessee golf team finished in 11th place after firing a final round 300 at the Country Club of Louisiana Intercollegiate tournament in Baton Rouge, La. The Vols played much better in the final round after a slow start in which the Vols shot a 302 and 307 in the first two rounds.

Individually, Tennessee's Kevin Law finished t-37th, Matt McWilliams t-44th, Andy Brimer finished 52nd, Ryo Fukami 54th and Derrick Centers finished t-55th. The Vols headed to Palo Alto, Calif., for their next tournament, The Nelson (Nov. 7-9), where Tennessee finished ninth last year and former Vol Tim Turpen claimed the individual title.

1967 Reunion

Some may know, while others are still wondering about the Vanderbilt weekend. That weekend is Lettermen's Weekend on the University of Tennessee campus. Lettermen from the 1967 football, track and field and basketball teams which won SEC Championships are encouraged to attend this special weekend event. Those teams will be honored at the Vanderbilt game.

The 1967 football team is having a reunion dinner on Friday before the game at the UT Conference Center. Those members of the 1967 football squad need to contact Dick Williams at 1-800-752-8328 for more information. Members of the other squads are also encouraged to attend the basketball game between UT and Appalachian State that Friday evening. The Lettermen's Room will be open prior to Tip-Off.

Lady Vol Soccer Drops to Georgia and Mississippi

The Lady Vol soccer team closed out its second SEC season by dropping back-to-back contests to Mississippi, 4-1, at home, and Georgia, 3-0, in Athens, leaving UT out of the Nov. 6-9 SEC Tournament. Tennessee plays twice more before the conclusion of the regular-season, and sits 9-8 overall and 2-6 in the SEC. Although the team did not qualify for the conference tournament, the Lady Vols have already bettered their 1996 overall record by three wins.

Swimming & Diving Opens Season With Win

All-Americans junior Kathy Pesek and senior Fabiola Molina each captured two events, helping the Lady Vol swimming and diving team to a 134-109 home victory over Kentucky. Pesek swept the diving competition, winning the 1m and 3m springboards and in the process qualified for the season-ending Zone B Diving Championships. Molina won the 200y individual medley and swam the backstroke lead-off leg for the victorious 400y medley relay, posting NCAA provisionally qualifying times in both events. The victory gave the Lady Vols a measure of revenge, having lost to UK last season.

Rowing Sweeps Novice Events

Coach Susannah Iacovino's Lady Vol rowing team opened its fall season at the Chattanooga Head Race with the Novice 4+ and 8+ each claiming a victory in their respective races. Tennessee went on to finish second overall in the regatta, as the Open 4+ and 8+ shells each took second place in their races to round out the UT finishes.

Volleyball Hit Hard By Injuries, Losses To Ranked Teams

Back-to-back road losses to No. 3 Florida and No. 27 South Carolina dropped the Lady Vol volleyball team to below the .500 mark in conference play for the first time of the year. Tennessee, which played with only seven athletes because of injuries, fell to 11-14 overall and 4-5 in the SEC. After two road contests, UT is back home to meet the same two teams on Nov. 7 and 9, when it begins the home stretch of the season with three of the final five matches in Knoxville, prior to the Nov. 21-23 SEC Tournament.

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This Week In Big Orange Country

Rejuvenated Spirit Paces Vols

After a tumultuous 1996-97 season, the Vol tennis team is looking to right the ship.

Last year the Vols lost a top-player to injury (redshirted), the No. 1 singles player was dismissed, two promising freshmen transferred at the end of the season and then, the head coach was replaced. The Vols were looking for an answer.

The answer may very well rest in the hands of new head coach Michael Fancutt, who will welcome the services of Chad Copenhaver, and four new faces. While the Australian Fancutt was waiting for his visa, assistant head coach Carlos Garcia led the squad through the fall schedule with some exceptional surprises.

The redshirt junior Copenhaver, returning from last season's back injury, and sophomore Mark Way, led a rejuvenated Vol tennis team through fall play. Copenhaver and Way finished runner-up in the Consolation Finals at the ITA Clay Court Championships in Baltimore, Md. On Oct. 12, they captured the Southern Collegiate Championship in flight one competition by defeating top-seeded Julius Robberts and David McNamara of MTSU 7-6(5), 7-5.

Not to be outdone, sophomore Kaspar Rasmussen captured the flight four singles title at the Southern Collegiate Championships. Rasmussen also reached the semi final round at the Georgia Tech Fall Classic where he fell to fifth seed John Long of Michigan 7-6(5), 6-2. As of Oct. 30, Rasmussen's singles record stood at 11-1.

The Vols also did well at the Clemson Fall Classic held on Oct. 3-5. After two days of simulated match competition, a championship format was set up based on records of the two-day event. In the end, Tennessee brought home the men's open singles title, the flight two doubles title and the flight five singles title.

Andy Crews, a freshman from Brentwood, won the men's open singles title with a win over Bobby Kroll of Wisconsin 6-4, 4-6, 7-5. Juan Gamboa, a sophomore, and Mark Parsons, a freshman, captured the flight two doubles title with an 8-3 spackling of Brian Gill and Drew Parker of Furman. Parsons was not done as he also captured the flight five singles title slipping by Georgia State's Nicholas Brochu 4-6, 6-1, 7-5.

These titles brought a much needed confidence booster to a program that could not find a groove last season due to injuries and inexperience. This season the Vols bring in four true freshmen and return six lettermen. Joining the freshmen class are Chris Buckley from Oak Ridge and Matt Jacobs from Oyster Bay, N.Y. Among the returning lettermen already mentioned, the Vols will need to see the same type of improvement from seniors Roger Illias and John Fritts, who can use their experience to lead this young squad back into national title contention.

With the addition of Coach Fancutt, the Vols appear to be pointing in the right direction. Fancutt comes from a tennis family which has many years of experience in national competition. He also has the knowledge of what is expected at the University of Tennessee. After all, he played under the successful tenure of Mike DePalmer here at Tennessee from 1979-81.

"As a player, I was part of a Southeastern Conference Championship team in 1980," Fancutt said. "In 1986, I was an assistant coach on an SEC championship team at UT, and I would like nothing better than to be head coach of an SEC championship team here. I look forward to having our tennis program compete again on that level."

—Donnell Field

Junior Chad Copenhaver's return to the tennis team has helped spark the program in fall competition.

Novice Remain Undefeated

Both Novice "A" shells continued their winning ways for the homestanding Lady Vol rowing team at the Head of the Tennessee. Competing in the 22nd annual event, UT's only Autumn regatta in Knoxville, Coach Susannah Iacovino's rowers put together another strong performance in its second outing of the fall by claiming three firsts and a second in the five races they entered. It mirrored the team's 1996 performance, where they also claimed three golds and a silver.

The regatta took place on the Tennessee River and included over 1800 rowers competing in front of approximately 700 spectators. It was the second of three scheduled events in the fall season for UT, which finished as the runner-up in its first regatta, the Chattanooga Head Race, on Oct. 11.

Leading off the Lady Vol contingent was the Novice 4+, which took the top two spots, including the "A" shell which remained undefeated in the fall season. Freshman coxswain Heather Hardt guided UT's top crew crossing the line over a minute ahead of the "B" shell in 18:10.55. Hardt was joined on the all freshmen shell by stroke Lauren Kueck, Christi Mertens, Cara DiPierro and bow Marie Hanscom. The runners-up, coxed by freshman Claire Allain who lost for only the first time in her collegiate career, finished in a time of 19:16.23.

Head Coach Susannah Iacovino leads the rowing squad to a successful fall season aiming for a return to the NCAAs in late spring.

Allain regained her winning touch as she returned in the afternoon to pilot the Novice 8+ "A" shell to its second victory of the fall, as her crew bested second-place finisher Washington University (Mo.) by over 20 seconds. It was the second time this year that the Novice 8+ won by a large margin. At the season-opening Chattanooga Head Race, the "A" shell crossed the line one minute and 23 seconds ahead of second-place UT-Chattanooga, but was assessed a one-minute penalty to drop the margin of victory to 23 seconds. Hardt's crew, comprised of Kueck, Mertens, DiPierro, freshman Jamie Craig, freshman Sarah Jones, freshman Jenny MacKay, freshman Kelly Irwin and Hanscom as the bow, finished in 18:23.00, with Washington in second at 18:45.24, and UT's "B" shell in third at 19:20.19.

After not making the weight at the Chattanooga Head Race, the Lightweight 4+ made a successful debut, winning in 20:11.16. Sophomore Laura Thompson coxed the winning team, with junior Jody Scott as the stroke, junior Amanda Rozek in the No. 3 seat, senior Kara Jenkins at No. 2 and junior Carrie Clark as the bow.

To begin the rainy day, Tennessee's Open 8+ "A" shell claimed second place in its race, finishing behind the crew from Vanderbilt, with a time of 16:42.01. The "B" shell struggled a bit across the line in 11th with a time of 17:56.98.

Rounding out the Lady Vol competitors was the Open 4+, which collected third and 10th-place finishes. The "A" shell clocked in at 20:04.0 only 1.08 seconds behind co-champions, UT-Chattanooga and Vanderbilt in 20:02.92, while the UT "B: shell finished in 21:23.78.

Tennessee opens the spring season on Mar. 7 with the Tennessee Cup in Oak Ridge on the Clinch River at Melton Hill.

—Brad Laux

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VASF NEWS AND NOTES

NCAA Q & A

After a week's hiatus because of the special point system section in the South Carolina issue, NCAA Q & A returns this week. Now that we have covered what types of contact between an athletic representative and a school's student-athletes are considered legal or illegal by the NCAA, take a look at the types on contact permitted between one institution's athletic representatives and another university's student-athletes. Remember that all supporters of the VASF, including subscribers to VOLUNTEERS Magazine/ Smokey's Tale, are considered athletic representatives by the NCAA.

QUESTION: Can an athletic representative contact an student-athlete at another four-year school for recruiting?

ANSWER: No. All contacts must by made by the University of Tennessee and ust be cleared by that other four-year institution. Each university has contractual rights to their student-athletes and coaches. Contact from outside sources for recruiting purposes is only made possible after the original school is notified and allows the contact to take place.

Point System Question of the Week

With the advent of the new VASF new point system, this new column will make its home on this page for the next few issues. The VASF staff will answer a common question they have received in their office over the past week or so. This week's question concerns years of service points to the VASF.

QUESTION: My friend and I both joined the VASF seven years ago. On our point sheets, I have 35 years-of-service points, but my friend only has 15. Why does my friend have fewer points for years of service than I do?

ANSWER: Most likely, your friend missed the donor deadline of March 15 one year and picked the donation up the following year. Since VASF points for years of service are only awarded for consecutive years of giving to the VASF, the number of consecutive years of giving was reset to zero when the donor missed that one year. Missing a yearly donation only affects consecutive years of service points. Cumulative donation amounts and their VASF point totals are always retained, even if the donor leaves the program in the future and comes back into it at a later date. If you have any questions about the VASF or its new point system, call the VASF office at (423) 974-1218 for more details.

Arkansas Away Game Reception

The University of Tennessee National Alumni Association will sponsor their traditional away game reception when the Volunteers travel to Little Rock, Ark, to take on the Arkansas Razorbacks on Nov. 15. The reception will be held at the Little Rock Hilton. It is located at 925 South University. The reception will take place Friday night, Nov. 14, from 7-9 p.m. Beverages and snacks will be available. For more information, contact Steve Catlett in the Alumni Association headquarters at (423) 974-3011.

Men's Basketball Parking Passes

1997-98 season basketball parking passes were mailed to those who ordered them by Nov. 4 from the VASF office. They are valid for all regular-season home games. If you do not receive yours by Nov. 11, contact Claire Stone in the VASF office at (423) 974-1218.

Men's Free Basketball Parking

The athletic department will again sponsor free basketball parking and shuttle service from Tennessee's agricultural campus this year for all regular season home games. Contact Parking Services at (423) 974-6011 for more information.

Men's First Basketball Game Quickly Approaching

The Volunteers will look to tip off their 1997-98 campaign on Friday, Nov. 14, as they begin the regular season against Winthrop. The game will also be schedule magnet night for the first 1,000 fans. Thanks goes out to WVLT TV-8, Toyota of Knoxville, and Long John Silver's for providing the schedule magnets. Make your plans to arrive early to get your 1997-98 schedule magnet. Gates open at 6:30 p.m. and tip off is slated for 7:30 p.m.

More Men's Basketball Action

Friday night's game against Winthrop marks the beginning of a stretch of four home games in ten days. The Vols are getting into action early with home games against Miami of Ohio (Mon., Nov. 17 - 7:30 p.m.), UNC-Asheville (Wed., Nov. 19 - 7:30 p.m.), and Austin Peay (Sun., Nov. 23 - 2:00 p.m.). For ticket information, contact the Ticket Office at (423) 656-1200. You can charge by phone with Visa, Master Card, or Discover if you like.

VASF Day

Volunteer Athletic Scholarship Fund Day, a day designed to honor and thank all the supporters of the VASF, happened on Nov. 1, in Thompson-Boling Arena. The VASF would like to thank all those whose contributions made the day another outstanding success.

The concessions and arena management staffs, student-athletes, coaches, Party Rentals, the County Boys, and the Volunteer Pep Club members each did their parts to make the day a wonderful time for all. The food, music, and games were great. The VASF thanks everyone for coming and looks forward to doing this event again next year.

Baseball Ticket Information

Ticket applications and renewals for the 1998 baseball Vols will be mailed around the first week in December. Contact the ticket office at (423) 656-1200 if you are interested in getting your name on the mailing list for season or big game package tickets .

—Steve Sams

MEN'S BASKETBALL BIG GAME PACKS

1997-98 mini-season ticket packages are now available over the phone or through the mail. Each ticket package is $40 and it contains tickets to four of Tennessee's best match ups of their home season. All games are played on Saturdays over a five-week span. The tickets reflect the same seat for all four home games against SEC foes Kentucky, Vanderbilt, Arkansas, and South Carolina. All seating is in the third level of Thompson-Boling Arena.

These packages would make great Christmas gifts. The actual tickets for these games will not be mailed until after the first of the new year. Everyone should receive their big game package ticket orders in January 1998. Call the ticket office at (423) 656-1200 to charge by phone with a Visa, Master Card, or Discover card.

The Last Word...

"Academics and Athletics"

There are now a million more reasons to be proud of the relationship between athletics and academics on the UT campus in Knoxville.

The University of Tennessee Athletic Department has given $1 million to the University's academic program. The announcement was made by Athletics Director Doug Dickey and UT president Joe Johnson on Oct. 28.

The gift, the largest single financial commitment ever made by athletics to the University's academic programs, will be used to purchase instructional equipment for use on the UT campus in Knoxville.

"What we're talking about today is a major investment by athletics in the academic side of the university," Dr. Johnson said. "This is on top of support which comes in every year for the Bicentennial Scholars, the Neyland Scholars, and the band.

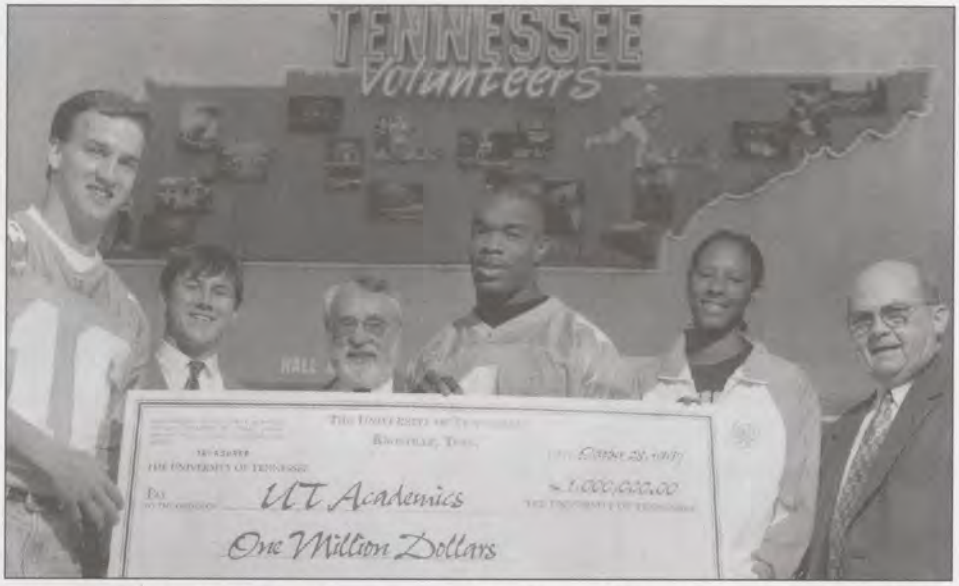
"This campus is about the only one I know of in which about 16,000 seats in Neyland Stadium and a proportionate number of parking spaces are allocated for people who make gifts to the academic side of the University. That's something that just doesn't exist other places.

"In this decade alone, individual athletic contributions have ranged from a $200,000 gift to the library endowment in 1990 to $700,000 for the band, library and scholarships in 1996."

"The size of our facilities and the success of our teams give us a distinct edge," Dickey said. "We sell more tickets than any other team in the nation. In 1999, we will play seven home games, which will provide an above average revenue source.

"We are proud of our success. We are even happier when our success allows us to assist other programs within the institution. It's important that we step up when we can to make this kind of contribution to the University. This is a great institution.

"The fans who come and support us make this possible. We have a great donor base for priority seating and a great number of fans who buy the season tickets in football and basketball. Things have been healthy for us for a number of years."



Vol players Peyton Manning, Leonard Little and Chamique Holdsclaw (L-R) present a check for $1 million to SGA president James Kirkland, UT Chancellor Bill Snyder and UT President Joe Johnson (L-R).

Presenting the check to Dr. Johnson and Student Government president James Kirkland were football captains Peyton Manning and Leonard Little and Lady Vol basketball player Chamique Holdsclaw.

"To be successful in recruiting student-athletes like Peyton, Leonard and Chamique, you have to have a strong academic program," Dickey said.

He pointed out that Manning and Little have already received their degrees and are enrolled in graduate school. And, as noted elsewhere in this magazine, Manning was named a National Football Foundation Scholar-Athlete, one of 18 to be honored Dec. 9 in New York.

"So we are very interested in supporting the faculty and other academic leaders," Dickey said.

In accepting the gift, Kirkland said that students in all colleges will benefit from the instructional equipment that will be purchased with the gift dollars.

"Athletics improve the quality of the overall experience at the university," Kirkland said. "In this case, the benefits are even more tangible."

Dr. William T. Snyder, chancellor of UT's Knoxville campus, said all academic colleges will receive money from the equipment fund. Items that will be purchased include:

*** Equipment for a leading edge computerized classroom in the College of Education

***Digital computer laboratory equipment for electrical and computer engineering

***State-of-the-art microscopes for several departments in the College of Arts and Sciences

***Modern media center laboratory equipment in the Art and Architecture Building

"What does athletics mean to the University of Tennessee?" Dr. Johnson asked. "It means a lot of excitement, a lot of emotionalism, a lot of thrills, and an occasional heartbreak.

"But it also means $1 million in instructional materials for all of our students."

— Tom Mattingly

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